



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/648,907	08/27/2003	Samuel Lin	20984-0006	5084

26587 7590 07/05/2005

MCNEES, WALLACE & NURICK LLC
100 PINE STREET
P.O. BOX 1166
HARRISBURG, PA 17108-1166

EXAMINER

ROSENBERG, LAURA B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3616

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/648,907	Applicant(s) LIN, SAMUEL	
	Examiner Laura B. Rosenberg	Art Unit 3616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Handwritten signature/initials

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cox (5,807,047). Cox discloses a vehicle chassis (best seen in figure 1) comprising:

- First chassis member (for example, tracks #21a, 21b) including a first connector (including #40) formed with a hole unit (including #49)
- Second chassis member (for example, beam #30) including a second connector (including #31) formed with a hole unit (including #36)
- Second connector disposed on first connector when chassis members are brought toward each other to align the hole units in the connectors (best seen in figures 2, 5)
- Locking device (including #50-54) including a locking pin (#50-52) and a resilient retainer (#53)
- Locking pin having a head end (including #51) and a tail end (including #52) opposite the head end, the locking pin extending through the hole units in the connectors (best seen in figures 2, 5)
- Resilient retainer having a first end (end of #53 near #51) connected pivotally to the head end of the locking pin (must be pivotal in some manner in order to release and reattach opposite end of #53 in groove #52) and a second end (end of #53 near #52)

Art Unit: 3616

opposite the first end and latched releasably to the tail end of the locking pin (via groove #52; best seen in figures 2, 5)

- Groove/notch unit (for example, including #22a, 22b, 22c) formed in the first chassis member and a projection/hook unit (including #32, 33) formed on the second chassis member, the projection/hook unit being received in and engaging removably the groove/notch unit when the chassis members are brought toward each other to align the hole units in the connectors (best seen in figures 2, 5)
- First connector (including #40) is generally U-shaped and has an accommodating space that opens "upwardly" (best seen in figure 5, the second connector (including #31) being disposed in the accommodating space of the first connector when the chassis members are brought toward each other to align the hole units in the connectors (best seen in figures 2, 5)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cox (5,807,047) in view of Brewer (6,089,343). Cox does not disclose a restricting member including a threaded fastener.

Brewer teaches a vehicle chassis (including #12) comprising:

Art Unit: 3616

- First chassis member (for example, #16) including a first connector (including #60) formed with a hole unit (including #64)
- Second chassis member (for example, #14) including a second connector (including #58) formed with a hole unit (including #64)
- Second connector disposed on first connector when chassis members are brought toward each other to align the hole units in the connectors (best seen in figure 4)
- Restricting member (including #62, 64) able to arrest movement of the chassis members relative to each other and including a threaded hole (including #64) formed in the second connector and a screw fastener (including #62) threaded through the threaded hole and butting against the first connector (best seen in figures 4, 5)

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify the vehicle chassis of Cox such that it comprised restricting member including a threaded screw fastener as claimed in view of the teachings of Brewer so as to more securely fasten the chassis members and prevent movement between them with an inexpensive fastening means.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Allen discloses a locking pin.

Brewer discloses a vehicle chassis with a plurality of chassis members and their connecting features.

Cannara et al., Anderson, Cheng, Gee, and Lindsay each disclose a vehicle chassis comprising two chassis members and a locking device including a locking pin and a resilient retainer.

MacKarvich discloses a vehicle chassis comprising two chassis members, locking pins, and a U-bolt.

Chadwick discloses a vehicle chassis comprising two chassis members, a locking pin, a cotter pin, and a U-bolt.

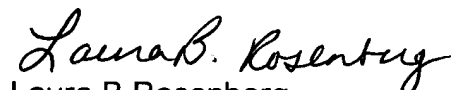
Gracy and Mittleider each disclose a locking device including a locking pin and a resilient retainer.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura B. Rosenberg whose telephone number is (571) 272-6674. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Dickson can be reached on (571) 272-6669. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3616

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Laura B Rosenberg
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3616

LBR



PAUL N. DICKSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600